
BUDGET UNIT BRIEF – FY 2018

Fiscal Services Division

December 6, 2017



Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

515.281.3566

Farm Management Demonstration

Purpose and History

The 2000 General Assembly created the Farm Management Demonstration appropriation that is intended to demonstrate voluntary farm management practices. Practices are required to provide environmental benefits generally directed toward water quality improvements. The appropriation allows 10.0% of appropriated dollars to be used for the administration of conservation practices. Appropriated dollars are split between the Iowa State Extension, which operates the Iowa Learning Farm, and the Iowa Soybean Association.

Iowa State Extension and Outreach. The Extension allocates appropriated dollars to the Iowa Learning Farm, which educates agricultural producers in conservation practices including reduced tillage, terraces, waterways, and cover crops. Appropriated dollars support demonstration projects that utilize these conservation practices throughout Iowa. Local leaders are relied upon to provide demonstration tours and information. Additionally, the Extension uses the funds to support environmental research pertaining to water quality.

Iowa Soybean Association (ISA). Appropriated dollars support the ISA On-Farm Network that conducts field tests across Iowa. The network uses GPS to measure the impact of different technologies and practices on yield and soil nutrients. Research results, available to the public on the website, are intended to provide accessible and usable information to soybean producers. Field strip testing compares products, application methods, timing, or other management practices.

Funding History

Since FY 2001, the Farm Management Demonstration appropriation has been funded between \$350,000 and \$850,000 annually from the Environment First Fund. Allocations to the Iowa Soybean Association began in FY 2005 and have ranged from \$370,000 to \$400,000. For FY 2018, the appropriation was decreased to \$375,000, and the appropriation will be allocated entirely to the Iowa Soybean Association.

Related Statutes and Administrative Rules

Iowa Code chapter [185](#)

More Information

Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship: www.iowaagriculture.gov
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